

THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH—NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE FRESHEST LOCAL MENTION

Matters Personal and General in and Around Portsmouth.

HEARD ON THE STREETS

Gossip and Events in Which Our People are Interested, Chronicled in Concise Form A Daily Diary of Happenings Presented to Our Readers Fresh Every Morning Snap Shots of Our Busy City.

The ladies of Central Church are much interested in the entertainment which will be given next Thursday evening at the residence of Mrs. Charles T. Eland, northwest corner of Dinwiddie and King streets, for the benefit of the new church building fund. A musical and literary program will be rendered and refreshments will be served.

Mr. Benjamin F. Adams, at West Norfolk, has a hotel which is partly furnished for rent. See ad.

Mr. A. G. Phillips has lost a valuable pointer dog. He offers a reward by advertisement if the animal is returned to him.

All the Mayor had to do in the police court yesterday was to say \$1.00 fine three times to an equal number of drunks.

The funeral of James Rowland, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. McIlhenny, Jr., will take place this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock from the residence of his parents, Prentiss avenue, near Lincoln street.

Mrs. Parks, of Baltimore, wife of Chief Engineer W. W. Parks, U. S. N., and Mrs. Percy Charles, of Chicago, are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Thompson Baird, in Court street.

A catcher, two very fine right and left-hand twirlers, a first baseman, short stop, third baseman and two heavy hitting outfielders were signed yesterday for the Portsmouth ball team. Five of the men are left-hand hitters, and none batted under 300 in the Texas League.

Mrs. R. H. King, of Port Norfolk, will leave this afternoon to visit relatives and friends.

Mr. James Hoggard continues sick at his home on Seaboard avenue, Pinner's Point.

Miss V. Brittingham, of Suffolk, is visiting her uncle, Mr. J. R. Driscoll, in Seaboard avenue, Pinner's Point.

Mrs. Thomas F. Bagley, of West Point, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Scott, in Carolina avenue, Pinner's Point.

Mr. J. D. Powell continues quite sick at his home, in Pinner's Point.

Mrs. R. A. Bramble and Mrs. L. C. Derden, of Seawalls Point, are visiting Mrs. George South, in Pinner's Point.

Mr. George Colgan, of Richmond, is visiting her sister, Mrs. C. C. Verlan, in Carolina avenue, Pinner's Point.

Dr. R. L. McMurrin announces in this issue that he is a candidate for the position of physician to the almshouse.

Mrs. Felt, the lady who was so seriously burned on Sunday morning several weeks ago, is in a critical condition. The chances for her recovery are not encouraging.

Yesterday a carload of logs stood at the Seaboard and Air Line station. Ordinarily this would not have attracted attention; but this carload consisted of peeled walnut logs and came from Georgia and are billed for Liverpool England.

A white man attempted to force his way into the front door of a London street residence last night about 9 o'clock and falling in the gate of Dr. McMurrin's residence, next door, and tried to get in the doctor's back door. He was frightened off. The police saw the premises and think the man jumped over the back fence and escaped in that way.

Miss Dana Hodges, 1008 Green street, gave an entertainment last night to her friends, which was a success. There were guests present from Norfolk, Berkeley and other near points. The musical program rendered was excellent.

In another column Mr. John T. Rudy advertises for proposals for refreshment privileges at the Portsmouth Base Ball Club. See the ad and if you are interested act as directed.

Mr. J. A. Steele, late store keeper for S. A. L., will leave for Chicago about April 1st to assume his duties with Messrs. Fairbanks, Morse & Co., railway supply dealers.

Mr. Thomas L. Godwin, brother of Mr. D. W. Godwin of 722 Green street, died yesterday at his home in Columbia, N. C.

Some one has stolen Mr. George S. Bell's Waverly bicycle, No. 131,404. See notice and reward offered.

There was a hung jury yesterday in the case of the Commonwealth against Cornelius Smith, colored, who stood charged with having been implicated in the robbery of Walworth's oyster packing house, on December 6th last. It is understood that the jury stood nine for acquittal and three for conviction.

Judge R. R. Prentiss adjourned the Norfolk County Circuit Court yesterday until next Wednesday.

Bishop Randolph conducted services and confirmed a class at All Saints Episcopal Church in Park View last night.

There was no quorum of the County Supervisors yesterday, but it was agreed to hold a conference with the Norfolk Board of Health in Norfolk next Monday afternoon to talk over the health condition of the suburbs.

Austin Buck, colored, was arrested last night by Officer Mahone on the charge of drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

Mr. W. J. Rogers of this paper, who has been confined to his home several days with the grip, was considerably improved yesterday.

Take hold of the Street Fair project and give it your energy and influence. When Portsmouth Base Ball Park is completed it will compare favorably with any in the State.

Mrs. Sarah Benthal, of Philadelphia, who has been visiting Mrs. Forbes in this city for two weeks, returned home last night.

Capt. C. H. Magruder, of Belfontaine, O., was in the city yesterday.

Chas. R. Ivelton & Co. have removed to 205 High street, Noah's Ark's old stand.

SHIPS FOR THIS YARD.

If Congress Authorizes the Building of New Ships This Yard to Get One, If Not Two.

Representative Mudd, of Maryland, who is a member of the House Naval Committee, is quoted as saying in an interview that one, if not two, of the new ships to be authorized by this Congress would be built at the Portsmouth (Va.) navy-yard. He was enthusiastic in his expressions regarding the facilities, location and other advantages of the Portsmouth (Va.) yard, and instanced the Texas and Raleigh as among the finest specimens of naval architecture in the world.

Mr. Wise has introduced the following bill, which was referred to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors and ordered to be printed:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of \$193,957.08 be, and the same is hereby, appropriated out of any money in the Treasury of the United States of America, not otherwise appropriated, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War for the removal of hospital point, in the harbor of Norfolk, Va., in accordance with the report and recommendations of the chief of engineers of the United States army in his annual report for 1897, transmitted to the House of Representatives by the Secretary of War on the 6th day of December, 1897.

GOOD NEWS FAST COMING IN

The Big Street Fair of Portsmouth Lodge of Elks Approved.

CREAT THING FOR CITY

Committees Appointed for Work in Detail

No Effort to be Spared to Make it the

Grandest Event in the History of the

City—What the Press Says of the Fairs

Held in Other Cities—Brings Strangers

to Our Doors.

The Elks of this city are hard at work to make the coming street fair worthy of the name of Elks. Encouragement is coming from every direction and it has given those interested a deeper enthusiasm and a more determined mind to make it a huge success.

Every man, woman and child in Portsmouth is interested, because what returns to the good of the city generally benefits them. It will be a grand affair—something never before equalled in this section.

THE COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

The following named Elks will compose the committees given below:

Executive and Entertainment Committee—James W. Brown, Jr., George A. Tabb, C. B. Lash, N. Levy and H. O. Pearson.

Advertising—Chas. T. Bland, Finance, Ways and Means—F. Lindsay, C. S. Sherwood, Wm. Thompson and C. J. Lyons.

Parades—J. F. Pace, F. Wiersdorf and W. T. Dolan.

Press—Hugh Steele.

Music—R. W. Scott, John W. Sullivan and C. B. Royal.

Public Speaking—John W. Happer.

Illustration and Decorations—W. C. Brooks, W. M. Riddick, H. H. White and H. F. Riley.

Transportation—A. T. Wilson and H. L. Butler.

Prizes—C. W. Walker and H. F. Butt, Jr.

John W. Borum has been appointed secretary to the Executive Committee and additional committees. The first named member of the respective committees is the chairman of said committee.

WHAT THE PRESS SAYS.

The following from the St. Louis Dispatch, under date of September 11th, 1898, is interesting:

"The finish of the old-fashioned County Fair is in sight. The Free State Fair is driving it out of business."

"Although but a few seasons old, it has rapidly spread over Indiana, Ohio, Iowa, Michigan and Illinois, approaching St. Louis from several directions."

"When asked the reasons for the wonderful growth of his hobby, Geo. D. Benson, father of the street fair, who is here as director of our fair, says: The Free State Fair idea first received attention in the United States some six years ago. It is really only a modification of the old German 'Yahr Markt,' or year market, and has lost nothing and gained much from being transplanted to this hemisphere and Americanized."

"With only one small fair six years ago, we have in that brief time climbed the heights until this season there will be upwards of three hundred held in the various cities of the country."

"The reasons for this popularity are manifold. The people are held day and night at the door of the merchant, and not out at some fair ground, perhaps miles away. The entrance is free and the attractions greater than at the State fairs. The premiums on products, stock, etc., are as large, and no fees are charged for entering an exhibit. The carnival features and spectacular productions seem to strike a popular chord, and thousands come drawn only by them."

"All these and many more are the reasons that the Free State Fair and Carnival combined has the unique record of universal success."

PYTHIAN HALL ASSOCIATION.

The association known as the Pythian Hall Association, consisting of a committee of eight from Portsmouth Lodge No. 16, Atlantic Lodge No. 24 and Seaside Lodge No. 80, K. of P., has absolute control of that magnificent piece of property situated at the northwest corner of Central and County streets and known as Pythian Castle. It is a thoroughly business body of men, under whose able financing the association is being rapidly relieved of the burden from a financial standpoint, taken upon itself in the construction of the Castle Hall.

At the last meeting the following officers were elected: John S. Summers, Portsmouth Lodge No. 16, president; W. C. Corbett, Atlantic Lodge No. 24, secretary and treasurer. The Board of Control was completed by the selection of C. P. Brownley, No. 24, chairman; John L. Nelson, No. 16; R. E. White, No. 80.

WALTER COTTON IS CAPTURED

The Cold-Blooded Murderer of Mr. Chas. Wyatt Run Down.

WANTED BY LYNCHERS

The City of Portsmouth Thrown Into a State

of Great Excitement When the News of the Capture Was Received Here—The

Virginian-Pilot Office Surrounded by Crowds All the Afternoon—The People

Very Much Pleased.

Yesterday morning Sheriff Smith received a telegram from Hurricane Branch, which brought the glad tidings that Walter Cotton, the cold-blooded murderer of Mr. Charles Wyatt, had been captured alive.

Never has news traveled faster, and in the shortest space of time imaginable the people generally were in possession of the contents of the message, and at once the Virginian-Pilot bulletin board became the centre of attraction, and as fast as news concerning the capture was received it was posted, much to the gratification of the crowds eagerly awaiting the latest developments in the matter.

HOT ON THE TRAIL.

Sheriff Smith received information ten days ago that Cotton was in a lumber camp in Greensville county, and has had officers watching for him ever since. Wednesday night the residence of Mr. J. R. Grizzard, at Emporia, was burglarized, and Cotton and a white man were the burglars who, when pursued, shot and killed Messrs. John W. Saunders and J. N. Welton, two prominent citizens of the county.

"Hurricane" Branch of Nansemond county, and his bloodhounds were put on the scent of the murderers, and Friday night Branch telegraphed here that he was on a hot trail, and would surely capture the man.

Cotton was to have died on the gallows here January 12th last, but his escape from jail the morning after Christmas, while his guard slept on post, is well remembered.

TELEGRAMS BACK AND FORTH.

The following telegrams will no doubt be read with interest by those who desire to know all that passed between Sheriff Smith and the captors of Cotton.

"Stony Creek, Va., March 23, 1900. To Williamson Smith.

"Sheriff of Portsmouth: 'Have got Cotton alive; he killed two officers."

"JOHN J. S. BRANCH." Immediately upon receipt of this, Sheriff Smith sent a wire message to Branch at Stony Creek, which read as follows:

"Portsmouth, Va., March 23, 1900. To John J. S. Branch.

Stony Creek, Va.: 'Do you want me to come up? If so will leave on first train out. Answer at once. Thanks, until better paid."

"WILLIAMSON SMITH." "Sergeant City of Portsmouth."

This message failed to reach Mr. Branch, he having left Stony Creek with his prisoner for Emporia. Then followed this telegram:

"To S. W. Lee, Sheriff Emporia, Va.: 'I understand that Cotton is in your jail. Do you think it best for me to come? If so will leave on first train."

"WILLIAMSON SMITH." "Sergeant."

A reply was received to this, which was worded as follows:

"Emporia, Va., March 23, 1900. To Sheriff Smith, Portsmouth, Va.: 'I have Cotton. You cannot have him. S. W. LEE, Sheriff."

Last night about 9:30 o'clock Mayor J. Thompson Baird received the following telegram:

"Jarratt's Station, Va., March 23, 1900. To the Mayor of Portsmouth: 'I arrested Walter Cotton. Hold reward. Will furnish proof."

"W. H. MOORE." HURRICANE BRANCH TALKS.

John J. S. Branch arrived in this city about 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and in talking about the capture gave some interesting facts. He says Cotton talked freely and he cited an attempt of a man to stick a dagger in Cotton, but was prevented from stabbing him by himself, he knocking the knife out of the man's hand with the butt of his rifle.

Continuing, Hurricane Branch said that no colored man had a hand in the capture. The men were both white and were acting under his instructions when the capture was effected. Cotton told Branch that when he escaped jail he crossed the river, remained one night, then came back and stayed on Godwin street, near the city, for a period of four weeks. Mr. Branch said that Cotton admitted braining and robbing Mr. Blick, the saloon-keeper, who was foully murdered at Emporia several weeks ago. Blick's bunch of keys and gold medal being found on Cotton when searched.

Cotton, in speaking of his escape from this jail, said that he was furnished tools sufficient by a white man, whom the police now think they know. He is cool and nothing seems to cause him to lose his nerve for a moment. When brought back here Cotton will have to be taken into court and sentenced, and at least thirty days must elapse between the day of sentence and day of execution. His captors will receive a reward of \$400 for their work, \$100 of which is offered by the Governor.

There was some strong talk here yesterday, but it is perfectly safe to bring Cotton back, as the people generally are satisfied that the law will deal with the condemned man in a manner fitting to the cold-blooded deed he committed. It is confidently expected that Cotton will be in the jail in this city as soon as he can with safety be landed there.

Nervous Headache Cured.

Speedily. No danger by Hick's Capudine. 15 and 25c. at drug stores.

Why Not Own Your Home?

We can furnish you one on the EASIEST terms. Beautiful homes for sale in Park View and Port Norfolk. All complete. Call or address for information The Seaboard Real Estate Co., 214 High street (up stairs). Insurance solicited.

mh15

THE WEST SUIT.

Judge Prentiss Wants Time to Look Further Into the Matter.

The case of S. B. West, suing the Atlantic and Danville railroad for \$10,000 for injuries received and upon which the jury could not agree on a verdict Friday night, and which was adjourned over until yesterday morning, again engaged the attention of the court for some time, the jury having agreed upon a verdict.

The attorneys for the defense demurred to the testimony, and the verdict of the jury, which was based on the demurrer, is as follows:

If the court on the demurrer to the evidence shall determine the law to be in favor of the plaintiff, we, the jury, find for the plaintiff, and assess the damages at \$750, but, if the court, on the demurrer to the evidence, shall determine the law to be in favor of the defense, then we, the jury, find for the defendant.

Judge Prentiss took the case under advisement.

The following decrees were rendered:

A. O. Foreman vs. J. W. Foreman's executors, in chancery; decree for sale and confirming report of Commissioner Happer.

A. B. Warrington, receiver; decree for final distribution.

Kemble vs. Kemble; made a vacation cause.

Florence C. Boulding vs. Benjamin R. Boulding; decree of divorce.

Nat. Seeds vs. Lucy Seeds; decree of reference.

Fannie W. Haynes and others vs. R. N. W. Keeling and wife and others; decree confirming report of commissioners and report of special commissioner and directing disbursement of \$200.

The following gentlemen were appointed trustees of Atlantic Park Cemetery Association: E. V. White, W. F. Irvine, R. A. Dodson, W. A. Lane, J. P. Andre Mottu, D. Lowenberg and N. Beaman.

FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

The Labor Unions of Portsmouth Heartily Endorse the Daytime Bill.

Representatives of the different labor unions of the city of Portsmouth met in Mechanics' Hall, on High street, for the purpose of discussing the bill offered in the National House of Representatives, which provides for the leaves of absence for certain employees of the government. The attendance was large and the interest taken was of the kind which would have encouraged the putting of the bill if he could have been present.

All the yards in the country have taken action and have raised considerable money to defray the expenses of representative men who will journey to Washington to support the bill and use their influence to secure its passage.

In the navy-yard in this city to-day a subscription will be taken up, and judgment from the way the men have taken hold of the matter quite a sum will be raised.

HOW THE BILL READS.

A BILL PROVIDING FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That each and every employee of the navy-yards, gun factories, naval station and arsenals of the United States Government be, and is hereby, granted thirty working days leave of absence each year without forfeiture of pay during such leave.

Provided, That it shall be lawful to allow pro rata leave to those serving fractional parts of a year, and provided further, that in all cases the heads of divisions have discretion as to the time when the leave can best be allowed without detriment to the service, and that absence on account of sickness shall be deducted from the leave hereby granted.

A YOUNG MAN SUICIDES.

He is a Son of Constable R. F. Adams, of West Norfolk.

Several days ago it was seen in print that a young man, wearing the uniform of a regular in the United States army, and whose name was Adams, had committed suicide by jumping from a train while crossing Raritan river.

Mr. B. F. Adams, the well-known constable of West Norfolk, is satisfied that the young man is his son, and his belief has been greatly strengthened by the receipt of the following letter:

"Lancaster, Pa., March 19, 1900. 'Mr. Adams:

"Dear Sir—Your son has committed suicide by jumping from the train as it was crossing the Raritan river, at New Brunswick, Pa., Sunday night about 2:30 o'clock. I was talking to him just before he jumped off and he showed me one of your letter heads. That is how I found your address. I must say that I do not think he is in his right mind at all, for he did not talk like it. It would be well to notify the authorities at New Brunswick. Yours truly,

"H. C. WILKINS, 'Traveling Drummer."

The young man's name was Benjamin F. Adams, Jr. He served through the American-Spanish war, having enlisted in Greensboro, N. C., at the beginning of the war, in Company D, Second Regiment, North Carolina Infantry. After the war he was given an honorable discharge. He re-enlisted and was sent to Fort Slocum, then transferred to Fort Schuyler, and he was on his way to Fort Meyer, to which place he had been ordered, when the sad ending of his life took place.

He had a great many friends in this city and section who will be pained to learn of his death.

THE CONDUIT SYSTEM BEGUN.

Yesterday morning a force of men began in front of the Southern Bell Telephone Company's office on High street the work of building the underground conduit system adopted by the company, the city having some time ago given its consent to this improvement.

The conduit will run on the north side of High street, from the Confederate monument on Court street to the river bank just south of the ferry slip, and on the west side of Crawford street, from High to the southern side of the Seaboard Air Line tracks at South street.

It will probably interest the readers of this paper to give a brief description of these conduits. They consist of lead pipes to the number of sixteen, they being encased in wood, which has been thoroughly creosoted. This in turn will be protected by a boxing in with lumber, which has gone through the same preparation as the wood spoken of.

The top of the conduits will be at a distance not greater than three feet from the surface of the street. There will be at convenient locations and distances man holes, through which ac-

cess to the conduits for repairs or other purposes can be gained.

The threading of the cables or wires through the pipes will be an interesting sight, this being done by means of rods joined together until they can be pushed through the pipes from one man hole to another. The rods are used as needles carrying the wires on the order that a needle carries thread.

Those in a position to know say that the work can be finished in fine shape in two months.

MASS-MEETINGS TO-MORROW.

The Y. M. C. A. will conduct two special meetings to-morrow afternoon. Rev. J. W. Porter, of Maysville, Ky., who is now assisting Dr. Garrett in a series of special meetings at Court Street Baptist Church, will address both meetings. The mass-meeting for men only will be held in the Court Street Baptist Church at 5 o'clock. Mr. Porter's subject at this meeting will be "Purity," and every man in Portsmouth should hear this address. Mr. Porter is an unusually interesting and helpful speaker. His sayings are original, and he knows how to use wit in sending home great spiritual truths.

The Court Street Baptist choir will assist in the song service and render special selections.

The meeting for boys will be held at the association building at 3 o'clock. Members of the Gospel Army, and all boys are invited. Rev. Mr. Porter will speak, and his subject will be "Tit for Tat."

OTHER PORTSMOUTH LOCAL ON PAGE 11.

DIED.

McHONEY.—At the residence of his parents, Prentiss avenue, near Lincoln street, Portsmouth, Va., March 22, 1900, at 3:20 p. m., JAMES HOWLAND, only son of George W. Jr., and Della F. McHoney, aged 2 years, 8 months and 22 days.

Funeral services from the residence THIS (Saturday) AFTERNOON at 3 o'clock. Friends and acquaintances invited to attend.

FOR PHYSICIAN TO ALMSHOUSE—DR. R. L. McMURRIN.

Subject to Democratic primary. mh21-4w

FOR STREET INSPECTOR—J. EDWIN HANRAHAN.

Subject to Democratic Primary. mh11-1t

Special for Friday and Saturday.

Early June Peas.....64c. per can
Rolled Oats.....43c. per package
Fine Sour Kraut.....5c. per qt.
Smithfield Hams.....16 2-3c. per lb.
Smithfield Jowls.....15c. per lb.

Respectfully,
R. G. KING.

Send us your order.

THE BRANDT CO.

213 AND 215 HIGH ST.

EVERYTHING FOR MEN FROM TOP TO TOE.

Any reason for you not coming here for your

Spring Suits and Trousers,

Workmanship, Material, Fit and Price—four reasons why you should. We cannot slight the goods, and we will not slight the making. Our standing as leading tailors is too valuable for that. Convince yourself by seeing the extensive line before placing your order for Spring.

SHOE DEPARTMENT.

Depend on it \$2.85 SHOE is the best, our..... because best

material, best shape, best finish possible and best price to all—\$2.85.